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Title: Dharna by Dalit Christians on the issue of including them as per the Presdential Order of 1950.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Sir, I am very grateful to you. I would like to bring to your notice that a *dharna* is taking place in Delhi by *dalit* Christians. Christians of *dalit* origin have been on *dharna* on the issue of including them in the Schedule as per the Presidential Order of 1950. They are all in the same circumstance as *dalits*. Therefore, I would humbly submit that the Government should look into it immediately, and do something to bring them also into the Schedule. The Muslims are also converted Muslims. They may not be denied it just because they believe in Muslim religion or Christian religion. The *dalits* of this country who are already getting the benefit should also not be affected. Therefore, we should think of a strategy whereby all these people are included without affecting them, and we should work out a strategy considering them also. Hence, I would submit that the Government should immediately take a view on this matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Athawale, you came as the last person. Hence, I have called your name to mention your issue even after the scheduled time.